



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5243

LCO No. 1229



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE LISTING OF TAXES AND FEES ON
CABLE BILLS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 16-333l of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2016*):

4 (b) Each such company shall provide each subscriber with a
5 description of the company's billing practices at the time of the initial
6 subscription and at least annually thereafter. Such description shall
7 include billing period and frequency, security deposit requirements,
8 late payment charges, returned check charges, credits for service
9 outages, pay-per-view billing procedures, charges and billing
10 procedures for the use of addressable converters, traps or other devices
11 or services which enable subscribers to voluntarily block transmission
12 of specific programming to their homes or places of business and such
13 other items as the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may require.
14 Each company shall file a copy of its billing practices with the
15 authority and shall give notice to the authority and each subscriber not

16 less than forty-five days prior to implementing any changes in such
17 practices. Every bill to subscribers of a community antenna television
18 service shall contain (1) the date on which any individually chargeable
19 service is rendered, (2) each rate or charge levied, (3) the amount due
20 for the current billing period separate from any prior balance due, (4)
21 the specific date by which payment is due, (5) such other items as the
22 authority may require, (6) the company's telephone numbers,
23 including any toll-free numbers, (7) the Public Utilities Regulatory
24 Authority's consumer assistance telephone number, [and] (8) the
25 mailing address of the company's advisory council, and (9) each tax,
26 including the applicable tax rate, and fee levied. Each company shall
27 provide each subscriber, quarterly, with a summary of the procedures
28 for resolving subscriber complaints and for providing refund or credit
29 for service interruptions, pursuant to section 16-333e, and a notice
30 indicating that, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-333i, the
31 company is required to restore interrupted service not later than
32 twenty-four hours after being notified by a subscriber that service has
33 been interrupted. Each bill insert or letter to subscribers, other than
34 promotional material, shall contain the company's telephone numbers,
35 including any toll-free numbers or any other free calling option, as
36 approved by the authority and the Public Utilities Regulatory
37 Authority's consumer assistance telephone number. Each advisory
38 council, in conjunction with the company, shall notify subscribers of
39 the time and place of any upcoming advisory council meeting, of any
40 vacancies that may exist on the advisory council and of the name of the
41 council chairperson and address of the advisory council. The
42 notification may be provided via the community antenna television
43 system at a sufficient frequency that subscribers may reasonably be
44 expected to become aware of the meeting or by publishing on a
45 quarterly basis the information in a newspaper having general
46 circulation within each municipality in the franchise area.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	16-333l(b)
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Statement of Purpose:

To require cable companies to list taxes and fees on cable bills.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]